

NEGRO WATCHMAN BURNED TO DEATH IN \$50,000 BLAZE

Charred Body Found in Ruins at 406 North Fifth Street.

FIRE SWEEPS WHITES' AUTOMOBILE PLANT

Forty Commercial Trucks and Pleasure Cars Wrecked in Flames.

IS DISCOVERED EARLY SUNDAY

Firemen in Constant Danger From Falling Glass From Cracked Windows.

An aged negro watchman was burned to death in a fire that swept the paint and repair department of the automobile plant of Geo. C. White and Sons, 406 North Fifth Street, early yesterday, causing a property loss estimated at \$50,000. The charred body was found by police behind an open door in the office of the burned building, and was identified as that of Charlie Adams, 902 North Second Street, employed as night custodian of the plant. It is thought he succumbed to smoke fumes before the arrival of firemen.

Thirty commercial trucks and pleasure cars, valued at \$600 to \$1,500 in value, stored in the three-story brick building at 406 North Fifth, were virtually a total loss.

Spread of the flames to the adjoining building occupied by the firm as a garage, salesroom and office, where twenty pleasure cars and large stock of auto accessories were stored, was prevented by a thirteen-inch brick retaining wall that separates the two buildings and through effective work of firemen.

Discovered by Woman.

Shortly after 3 o'clock a colored woman, at 509 East Marshall Street, saw the reflection of fire from an upper-story window and, running into the street, found the building alight.

When firemen arrived flames were breaking from the first and second stories and Battalion Chief W. C. immediately called a second alarm, summoning all available fire fighting apparatus in the central section of the city to the scene. The flames spread to the third story and for a time it was feared they would jump the street to two other buildings occupied by the plant.

While the fire was at its height firemen were in constant danger from falling glass cracked from windows by the heat of the flames. They worked in imminent peril of their lives amid exploding gasoline tanks of cars in an effort to prevent the fire's spread to the rear of the building, where a large supply of paint was stored. Some of the larger tanks were found intact by the owners in a survey of the ruins.

Tanks Are Not Damaged.

Two submerged tanks, containing 500 gallons of gasoline and 250 gallons of benzoline, the pumps of which were scorched by flames, were undamaged.

Little Pickford Becomes Bride.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 8.—Little Pickford, motion-picture actress, sister of Mary Pickford, became the bride of Allan Forrest, also a film player, here at night. Mary Pickford was matron of honor. Jack Pickford gave the bride away.

PETERSBURG BOY IS LATEST ACCUSER OF MAJOR OPIE

Is Only Ex-Soldier From Cockade City to Make Charge Against Staunton Man—Hearing to Be Resumed Today.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] PETERSBURG, VA., Jan. 8.—Garland D. Collett, of Dallas, Tex., was quoted yesterday in news dispatches as having informed Senator Watson that he was willing to testify before the Senate committee that Major H. L. Opie had shot at him while under fire in France, in Petersburgh boy. His mother, Mrs. W. H. Collett, now residing at 1142 West High Street, as do several brothers and two sisters. Collett is well-known here, having been born and raised here. He left Petersburgh several months ago for Dallas.

Collett served in Company G, One Hundred and Sixteenth Infantry (Peckham Grays), and was discharged from that organization with the rank of sergeant. He enlisted in the local company when a youth and saw service with it on the Mexican border. He holds a good reputation in this city.

Collett's charges came as a surprise to his friends here, for so far as is known, he had never made any mention of the Opie incident before.

Collett is the first Petersburgh boy so far to make any accusations against the Staunton man, although the majority of men who served in Company G, One Hundred and Sixteenth Infantry, now reside here.

SMITH AND ALBIN ARE SUMMONED TO TESTIFY

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] WINCHESTER, VA., Jan. 8.—Robert W. Smith, formerly first sergeant of Company I, One Hundred and

GREAT ANXIETY OVER INTERNAL TROUBLES IS FELT IN IRELAND

Split in Dail Eireann Is Heightened and Intensified.

FUTURE SEEMS OBSCURE

Two Factions Hold Long Conferences Over Developments for the Future.

[By Associated Press.] BELFAST, Jan. 8.—There was a renewal tonight of the disorders of last week when the military, with machine guns, were compelled to disperse rioters in Townsend Street. There also were disturbances in Percy Street between Shankill and Falls Roads in which a woman was wounded.

One man was wounded in a shooting affray Saturday night.

Fear Internal Disturbances.

DUBLIN, Jan. 8.—The peace treaty has been ratified and prayers of thanksgiving went up from the people in all the churches today, but Ireland continues to face internal disturbances, giving rise to the greatest anxiety.

The military authorities here evidently consider the vote in favor of the peace treaty by the Dail Eireann as a final decision on the Irish situation. Ever since the Dublin City Hall was commandeered by the military and courts-martial were held there, the building had been surrounded by barbed wire entanglements, which projected across the pavement.

This morning soldiers began clearing away all the wire.

The split in the Dail Eireann has been heightened and intensified by the vote on the treaty, and the future was never more obscure. At different hours today the two factions held conferences at the Mansion House. The Dail will meet again tomorrow in public session and all members are expected to attend.

It has become apparent that Eamon de Valera's resignation as "president of the republic" did not take an official form, and the outstanding question tonight is whether he will make effective his expressed intention to resign, and if he does not what will become of the Dail. Many believe that the opponents of the treaty plan to keep Sinn Fein Parliament in being while the supporters of the treaty endeavor to establish a provisional government and carry out the terms of the peace agreement.

Mr. de Valera's resignation tendered to the Dail Eireann Friday was specific; he consented, however, to postpone action thereon on condition that a vote on the treaty should be taken within forty-eight hours.

3 DROWN IN LAKE

Youth Loses Life Trying to Save Two Girls.

[By Associated Press.] SOUTHAMPTON, N. Y., Jan. 8.—Two young girls broke through the thin ice at Lake Agassaw, while skating today, and then clung so tightly about the neck of a youth who tried to save them that all three were drowned.

The bodies were recovered soon afterward and rushed to the Southampton Hospital, where an unsuccessful attempt was made to induce artificial respiration. The victims were Marie Buchheld II, Stella Largo and Charles Jenkins.

WANTS LEVIATHAN REPAIRED AT BOSTON

Representative Ballinger Appeals to President to Give Massachusetts City Consideration.

[By Associated Press.] WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—An appeal to have the Leviathan reconditioned at the Boston Navy Yard has been made to President Harding by Representative Ballinger, Republican, Massachusetts, who announced tonight he also had taken the matter up with officials of the Shipping Board, Secretary Denby and Budget Director Dawes. The President has requested a letter written to him by Mr. Ballinger, to direct the Shipping Board not to award a contract for repairing the liner until the advisability of having the work done at Boston is determined.

Mr. Ballinger declared that the dry dock at the Boston Navy Yard is the only one on the Atlantic Coast large enough for the Leviathan. He contended, if not at less expense to the government, at Boston, as at any private shipyard, and in addition would furnish employment to hundreds of skilled workmen whose services the government will lose if work is not provided for them.

ASSERTS FRY LAW IS NOT A FAILURE

Haynes Blames Anaphthalene Chemicals for Chief Obstacles in Way of Volstead Act.

[By Associated Press.] CHICAGO, Jan. 8.—Prohibition law is not a failure and while enforcement of it probably never will reach the 100 per cent point of efficiency it is rapidly approaching the highest possible point, Major H. A. Haynes, national prohibition director, said today in an address before the Law Enforcement League of Chicago.

No law can be enforced 100 per cent, Mr. Haynes said. He declared that the chief obstacles in enforcement of the Volstead act were anaphthalene chemicals and lethargic public officials.

The "wets" have spread carefully planned propaganda to make it appear that the prohibition law is a failure and cannot be enforced, said Major Haynes.

Grand Sire of Old Fellows Dies.

TORONTO, Jan. 8.—Joseph Oliver, grand sire of the Independent Order of Old Fellows, died here today after an illness of three months. He was 70 years old.

HARDING DINNER AIMS AT GREATER PARTY SOLIDARITY

Reach Agreement on Early Enactment of Soldier Bonus Bill.

WOULD COMPENSATE MEN WITH DEBT INCOME

Consider Position of G. O. P. on Present Domestic Issues.

TO CALL EARLY CONFERENCE

Will Seek to Reconcile Differences Existing in Party Councils Over Legislation.

[By Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—A move toward solidarity and an effort to find ways and means of increasing the efficiency of the Republican party in Congress, it was learned today, was the two-fold purpose of the White House dinner Saturday night, which brought together President Harding and a number of representative Republican leaders.

Protracted consideration was given, during the after-dinner discussion which lasted until after midnight, to the position of the party on present domestic issues with the result that decision was practically reached on what was described as two matters of first importance: early enactment of a soldier bonus bill and early assembling of a Republican Senate conference to reconcile any differences which may be found to exist in party councils over the form to be given legislation for refunding allied debts.

Sales Taxes Alternative.

The two subjects were interrelated in the discussion, since the possible income of the debts, it was fairly generally agreed, stood out as the best chance of recouping the expenditure with a sales tax suggested as the alternative.

Two members of the Cabinet, Secretary Weeks and Attorney General Daugherty, participated, as did Chairman John T. Adams, of the Republican National Committee; Senators Lodge, Watson, of Indiana; (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3.)

TEN ARE POISONED BY DRINKING VARNISH AT COMMUNION SERVICE

Elders of Church Partake of Fluid Thought to Be Sacramental Wine.

[By Associated Press.] GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., Jan. 8.—Ten elders of the Seventh Reformed Church here were poisoned at the morning service today when they drank from a cup that had been poured from a communion cup in the belief it was sacramental wine. Two of the elders were said to be in a critical condition.

The church recently had been repaired, and in the store room where the sacramental wine is kept in a jug several jugs of varnish used in redecorating had been stored. One of the officials of the church is said to have mistaken the varnish for wine when he filled the communion cup during the church service.

The ten elders of the church were the first to drink the communion wine. As the cup was being passed to other members of the congregation the elders were seen to fall to the floor. Many of the church members became panic-stricken and rushed from the church. A physician was summoned and the stricken men taken to hospitals or their homes.

PEPPER SLATED TO SUCCEED PENROSE

Appointment by Governor Sprout to Fill Vacancy Is Expected Today.

[By Associated Press.] PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 8.—Appointment of George Wharton Pepper, of Philadelphia, as United States Senator to succeed the late Boies Penrose, is expected to come from Governor Sprout tomorrow unless a last minute change is decided upon. The expected appointment, it is understood, virtually became a certainty after a visit by the Governor to Senator William E. Crow, in a Pittsburgh hospital yesterday. Senator Crow is chairman of the Republican State committee and it is said the Governor, being a close political friend, desired to inform the organization leader before making his final decision.

Governor Sprout, upon his return from Pittsburgh to his home in Chester, had little to say about the senatorship, declaring that he would not make any announcement on Sunday. He did not deny that Senator Pepper would be the man selected. It was understood the men the Governor had in mind had narrowed down to Mr. Pepper and Lewis Sadtler, of Carlisle. State highway commissioner, with Mr. Pepper as the final selection.

Grand Sire of Old Fellows Dies.

TORONTO, Jan. 8.—Joseph Oliver, grand sire of the Independent Order of Old Fellows, died here today after an illness of three months. He was 70 years old.

DEMOCRATS MOVE TO OUST SLEEP BY REARRANGING 9TH

Will Consider Plans Today to Make Two Districts Doubtful.

REMARKABLE MEETING HELD IN WASHINGTON

Propose Sixth and Ninth Be Transformed Into Fighting Ground.

SUBMITTED TO LEGISLATURE

Agreement Among Leaders for Redistricting to Come Before Pending Session.

[By Associated Press.]

Proposals for legislation intended to dislodge Representative Campbell Bascomb Sleep from his stranglehold on Southwest Virginia, will be considered in a remarkable gathering of Virginia Democrats to be held this morning in Washington. Those taking part will be the Virginia delegation in both branches of Congress, together with representative men from the Sixth and Ninth Congressional Districts.

At this meeting will be considered plans to have the General Assembly at its pending session so to redistrict the State as to transform one certainly Democratic district into two doubtful districts in which both parties will have a fighting chance, but which will both, in reasonable probability, afford the Democrats the best chance for success.

Frank in Regard to Position.

Those advocating the plan are inclined to be very frank in regard to their position on this important question. They say that the proposed change will result in two districts that on the map will present the appearance of shoe strings. Further examination, they assert, will demonstrate that the interests and especially the communications of the two proposed districts will be found to be closely connected. They go further and say that so long as certain Republican States of the North frankly geographically their congressional districts so as to deprive the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1.)

DESPERATE CONVICTS ESCAPE FROM PRISON THROUGH A SEWER

Seven Recaptured at Frankfort, Ky., Within an Hour After Boy's Warning.

[By Associated Press.] FRANKFORT, KY., Jan. 8.—Eight of the most desperate prisoners in the Kentucky State Reformatory here, including one who is serving a life term for murder, today escaped from the main prison through a sewer. Seven of the men got outside the walls, but were recaptured within an hour, and the eighth was found two hours later hiding in the shirt factory.

The escape was planned by George Miller, of Covington, Ky., serving five years for robbery, and Joe Pat Murray, of Newport, Ky., serving seven years and who, it is said, has attempted to escape four times.

Recently some work had been done on the sewers in the prison yard and the excavations uncovered the main sewer. Murray and Miller, it is said, hid a pick and today broke a small hole in the large sewer main. The pair dropped into this, walked a few feet to a trapdoor in the factory stockade, raised the sewer cap, crawled out and escaped by climbing over the fence. The other men claimed they noticed the hole and attempted to escape.

As the men climbed the fence a small boy saw them and notified the guard on the front gate, who gave the alarm.

EIGHT PRISONERS ESCAPE FROM JAIL

Use Piece of Wire as Key to Unlock Ties of Cells and Saw Bar.

[By Associated Press.] OWENSBORO, KY., Jan. 8.—Late tonight one of the eight prisoners, who escaped from the Davies County Jail early this morning, had been recaptured, although officers were scouring the surrounding country throughout the day.

Using a piece of wire as a key with which they unlocked the ties of cells the prisoners then sawed a bar to a second story window, tied their blankets together and slid to the ground. The key to the cells later was found on the veranda of a residence nearby, wrapped in a piece of paper, on which was written "please deliver to the jailer of Davies County." The note was signed by three of the escaped prisoners.

Faces Trial for Bribery.

FRANKLIN, TENN., Jan. 8.—With the defenses evidence ended and the prosecution ready to present rebuttal witnesses, the trial of State Senator E. N. Clabo, of Sevierville, Tenn., charged with soliciting and accepting \$300 as a bribe during the last session of the Tennessee Legislature will begin this morning.

LLOYD GEORGE SCORES 3 DISTINCT TRIUMPHS IN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS

British Premier, Friends Say, Reaches Pinnacle of Political Ambitions.

MANY CONGRATULATE

Europe Accepts His Plan for Regeneration of Economic Structure.

[By United News.]

CANNES, Jan. 8.—This has been the greatest day in Lloyd George's career as a statesman. Three events in forty-eight hours have carried him to what his friends call the pinnacle of his political ambitions, and brought upon him a deluge of congratulations from every diplomat here.

The English-Irish feud of centuries has been ended through his efforts.

Europe virtually has accepted the Premier's own plans for the regeneration of the world's economic structure and for constructive negotiations with Russia, a scheme that has been attacked for more than a year in every other European capital but London.

Allies Accept Scheme.

The principle of dealing with the Berlin government in the matter of reparations directly, instead of by investigating commissions, also Lloyd George's scheme, has received practical acceptance by the allies.

While Lloyd George was receiving the congratulations of the other Premiers, the financial experts attached to the various delegations were laboring all day to reach an agreement as to the amount Germany should be able to pay this year, and until their work is concluded the supreme council can not proceed with the other business on its agenda.

The French and Belgium delegates are insistent that Germany can be made to pay at least two or three hundred million gold marks above the sum set by the British experts—\$500,000,000.

Discussions Are Aerial.

The latest discussions on this point between Lloyd George and the French and Belgium delegates have been more frequent and the debate progresses. It is learned that up to the last moment, Premier Briand hotly insisted that the Germans should not be summoned to Cannes until the allies themselves had reached an agreement.

Lloyd George wanted the Berlin delegates summoned at once, retorting: "You yourself have been talking to the Germans in Paris."

"Who has?" queried Briand sharply. "Well, they came to Paris to talk to the reparations' commission."

"That is whom they should deal with," Briand declared triumphantly. "The Versailles treaty they should not deal with us, but with the reparations commission."

Laugh at Premier's Expense. By the compromise reached later, the German delegates were to be summoned as far as Paris.

Lloyd George charged that the (Continued on Page 2, Col. 5.)

WEALTHY WOMAN.

86. DIES IN MEMPHIS

Mrs. Napoleon Hill Prominent in Social Circles in South for Fifty Years.

[By Associated Press.] MEMPHIS, TENN., Jan. 8.—Mrs. Napoleon Hill, 86 years old, reputed one of the wealthiest women in the Southern States and for more than fifty years a prominent figure in the social and women's club life of the South, died suddenly at the home of her son, Frank P. Hill, here tonight.

Mrs. Hill was brought back from Pass Christian, Miss., several weeks ago, after an illness which threatened to result fatally, and was believed to be recovering her health.

In addition to being probably the largest individual property owner in Memphis and West Tennessee, Mrs. Hill had large interests in Mississippi and Arkansas. In spite of her advanced age, she continued to take an active interest in the management of her properties and also in the social life of the city up to within a few months of her death.

CHINESE TO RESIST JAPANESE PLANS

[By Associated Press.] WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—The Chinese people will resist by every means at their disposal an attempt by the Japanese to open direct negotiations with Peking on the Shantung question, representatives of the Chinese and provisional organizations, who are here as unofficial observers at the Washington conference, declared in a formal statement today.

"Should the Anglo-American offices fail to bring an equitable solution," the statement said, "the Shantung question should be brought before the conference and should that fail, actions independent of the conference should be taken by the Chinese delegation to vindicate China's honor."

The present deadlock, the statement added, was "deliberately created by Japan for the purpose of causing delay and carrying on intrigues in Peking." The action and attitude of Japan, the Chinese representatives declared, "have convinced us that Japan has no intention to quit Shantung."

Is to Baltimore, New York River

Line, 5:10 P. M. Daily Ex. Su.—Adv.

CHARGE V. R. & P. MADE MEN AGREE NOT TO QUIT JOBS

Statement Contained in Affidavit Sworn To by Employees in Norfolk.

ASSERT THEY BELIEVED POSITIONS AT STAKE

Wilcox Declares Individual Bargaining Is Violation of Agreement.

CONTRACT BARS ARBITRATION

Spokesman for Union Calls Attention to Clause Respecting Wages.

Two days before the conference

representatives of the union employees of the Virginia Railway and Power Company and the officials of the company, leaders of the union have come forward with a statement in which they advocate an open conference, to which all citizens interested would be admitted. In place of an executive session, the conference will take place Wednesday and efforts will be made to settle the controversy resulting from the action of the company's officials in posting an agreement proposing a drastic cut in the wages of the employees.

Announcement that the union officials desired an open discussion of the controversy was followed by a statement that officials of the company forced employees of the Norfolk Labor Union to sign an agreement to work after the present wage scale would go into effect on January 15. Forty-three union men yesterday signed an affidavit in which they swore they signed the company's agreement only after they were led to believe that they would be dismissed from the service after January 15, regardless of the outcome of the conference.

Makes Affidavit Public.

George Luther Wilcox, executive secretary of the Central Trades and Labor Council, and spokesman for the union, last night made public the affidavit of the Norfolk men, which was signed by a notary public of the Tidewater City.

The statement of the men follows: "We, the undersigned, do hereby declare that the paper presented to us by the representatives of the Virginia Railway and Power Company, on January 7, 1922, was signed by us for the following reasons:

"The statement made to us by the said representative of the Virginia Railway and Power Company caused us to believe that our refusal to sign said paper would result in the loss of our jobs on and after 15th of January, regardless of the outcome of any conference held between the Virginia Railway and Power Company and the officials of the Amalgamated Association."

Statement was sworn to in the

presence of Jacob S. Edliss, a notary public of Norfolk.

Called In as Individuals.

Statements of Mr. Wilcox are that the men in Norfolk were called in as individuals and asked to sign the agreement, as were the men in Richmond last week. He declared that this was a violation of an agreement under which the union men were now working. Mr. Wilcox stated that this agreement was signed in October, 1920, and later was continued to include October, 1922. He stated that the company's officials agreed (Continued on Page 2, Col. 5.)

PASTOR TAKES UP CUDGELS FOR EMPLOYEES OF V. R. & P.

Dr. Broughton Asserts Men Are Underpaid Now and That Company Is Using Them to Force Council to Act on Franchise.

Rev. Len G. Broughton, pastor of the Grove Avenue Baptist Church, in his sermon last night declared that the Virginia Railway and Power Company, in seeking a new franchise from the city and in the effort to accomplish its desire, is using the company to force the city to terms. Dr. Broughton also stated that the company not only are not overpaid, but are actually underpaid.

He said that Richmond and the surrounding territory stands on the brink of a serious condition as a result of the controversy between the company and the men. His statements were a part of a sermon on "More Than Conquerors in the Light of Our Present Street Car Strike." The speaker said that word had gone out over the lines operated by the company in Virginia that the wages of the men would be cut and that the men had announced that they would not accept the cut. "Yet nothing has been done to remedy the situation," said Dr. Broughton.

Says Men Not Overpaid.

That the men are not overpaid was one of the most significant statements made by the speaker during his discussion of the subject. "The best paid carman the company has gets less than \$150 a month, if he works ten hours a day and thirty days in a month. The rest can only get around \$90 per month for the same work," said Dr. Broughton. He asked the question, "Does anybody say that this is too much pay? I de-

clare to you that it is not pay enough."

Dr. Broughton reviewed every angle of the present controversy and laid particular stress on the fact that the company is seeking a new franchise from the City Council. He stated that the Council has a movement now on to ascertain the value of the company's properties. The speaker asked the question: "Why didn't the company wait until this investigation is made?" he said. He continued his discourse by stating that he did not believe the Council is going to be driven in this way.

Wants More Liberal Franchise.

While he criticized the company for its action in pressing the franchise matter before the completion of the investigation, Dr. Broughton had the same time declared that the company should have a more liberal franchise if the investigation shows it is just. The speaker stated that the company will get justice if it will wait and abide by the investigation.

Dr. Broughton warned the company against bringing about a strike by forcing an abridgment of the company's men. He stated that the company will fail forever to get its desires by adopting such a policy and what may turn out to be what they should have. "Let the company and the men come (Continued on Page 4, Col. 2.)